# Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 AF-10 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 STR-04 ITC-01 /136 W

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R 151608Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5738

INFO USDA/WASHDC

ALL OECD CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS: USDA FOR ASST SECY HATHAWAY; R. W. PHILLIPS AND SORENSON, FAS; BRUSSELS FOR USMISSION TO EC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR OECD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE, 61ST SESSION,

JUNE 27-29, 1977

1. SUMMARY. COMMITTEE AGREED ON THEME OF MINISTERIAL LEVEL SESSION, ON SCOPE OF BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION TO BE ISSUED BY SECGEN AND PROPOSED FEBRUARY 9-10, 1978 TO COUNCIL AS DATE (PAR. 3). COMMITTEE GENERALLY APPROVED 1978 PROGRAM OF WORK PROPOSALS WITH SOME EMPHASIS ADDED TO STUDY ON NEW CONDITIONS FOR ANIMAL FEEDING AND THEIR IMPACT (PAR. 2). SMALL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND AGR TO MEET UNCLASSIFIED

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JULY 27-28. LIVELY DISCUSSION OF SOYBEAN OUTLOOK CONTRIBUTED TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THAT SECTOR.

VARIOUS REPORTS RECEIVED. SOUTH AFRICA TO BE
INSPECTED FOR ADMISSION TO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SCHEME.
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ADMISSION TO SEED SCHEMES
RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL. DEADLOCK ON "COOPERATIVE RESEARCH IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION" PROJECT

DISCUSSED IN DETAIL (PAR. 11). NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED WEEK OCT. 24 WITH AGR OUTLOOK, PART-TIME FARMING AND MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING PREPARATIONS ON AGENDA. END SUMMARY

2. AGENDA ADOPTED (AGR/A(77)2 WITH ADDENDUM) PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1978 (AGR(77)19) DISCUSSED FIRST DAY. SECRETARIAT (SIMANTOV) EXPLAINED THAT DOCUMENT LISTS A FULL PROGRAM BUT NO ALTERNATIVES (AS HAD BEEN DONE ONE AND TWO YEARS AGO). ANY ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS COULD ONLY BE ACCOMMODATED BY DELETION OF SOMETHING LISTED. IN ADDITION TO EXECUTING FORMALLY PROPOSED PROGRAM, AGR DIRECTORATE MUST MEET REQUIREMENTS OF ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PRICE PERFORMANCE OF THE FOOD SECTOR. COMM FOR AGR RECORDED ITS VIEW THAT IF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WILL BE SHIFTED TO FISHERIES THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE BY REDUCING RESOURCES NOW ALLOCATED TO AGRICULTURE. UK DEL (EDWARDS) REPEATED HIS DEMAND OF LAST YEAR FOR EARLIER SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND REOUESTED ATTACHMENT OF AGRICULTURE CHAPTER FROM CURRENT YEAR "PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET." CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS BY NEARLY ALL DELS LED TO A CONSENSUS ENDORSING THE PROPOSALS WITH SOMEWHAT MORE EMPHASIS ON THE LIVESTOCK FEED SECTOR THAN REFLECTED IN PAR. 19 OF DOCUMENT. (COMMENT: THE STUDY ON NEW CONDITIONS FOR ANIMAL FEEDING AND THEIR IMPACT INITI-UNCLASSIFIED

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ATED IN 1977, ACCORDING TO AGR/M76)2, JULY 8, 1976, PAR. 9, CALLS FOR AN AD HOC GROUP. ALTHOUGH SUCH A GROUP IS NOT MENTIONED IN MORE RECENT DOCUMENTS, SECRETARIAT INTENDS TO CONVENE IT.) SECRETARIAT ALSO PROPOSED TO INVITE LIVESTOCK FEED INDUSTRY REPRESENTA-TIVES ("PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS") TOPART OF SOME MEETINGS AS IS NOW DONE IN WP NO. 5. JAPANESE AND GERMAN DELS MADE REFERENCE TO THE FOOD SECTOR ASPECTS OF PART 2 OF THE BUDGET PROJECT, "THE FUTURE DEVELOP-MENT OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES IN HARMONY WITH THAT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES" AND REGRETTED LACK OF PROGRESS REPORTS OF THAT PROJECT. CANADIAN DEL YANKOUSKI) ASKED FOR EC POLICY REVIEW ANALOGOUS TO U.S. POLICY REVIEWS IN MARCH 1976. EC REP (BRUDERER) REPLIED INSTRUMENTS OF EC AGR POLICY HAD NOT CHANGED; THEREFORE NO COMPLETE REVIEW JUSTIFIED: BUT AN EC NOTE WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF ANNUAL AGR POLICY REVIEW (SEE CH. II OF AGR(77)19) WOULD BE OKAY. IN REPLY TO SEVERAL COMMENTS ON THE HAZINESS OF THE GERMAN-PROPOSED STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICY (END OFPAR, 12, AGR(77)19) SECRETARIAT (RAIDL) INVITED WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE ISSUE. GERMAN DEL DISTLER

REPORTED GERMAN POSITION CLARIFIED IN PAPER JUST SENT TO SECRETARIAT. REGARDING PROJECT ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDICATORS, A SMALL EXPERTS' GROUP WILL MEET

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IN EARLY 1978. AD HOC POLICY EXAMINATIONS IN WP NO. 1 SCHEDULED FOR CANADA IN DEC. 1977 AND FOR GREECE IN 1978.

3. PREPARATION OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL; DAA/1460, 1462, 1463, AND, FOR INFORMATION, 1461 DISCUSSED SECOND DAY. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED CONSOLIDATION OF 1462, INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS, AND 1463, AGR. MARKETS, INTO ONE DOCUMENT; 1460, REVISED, AGRO-FOOD POLICY WOULD FORM OTHER PRINCIPAL MEETING DOCUMENT; 1461 WOULD ALSO BE REVISED FOR INFORMATION; ALL PAPERS UNDER AUTHORITY OF SECGEN. AG/ENDA OF MEETING TO CONSIST OF SINGLE ITEM, "OUTLOOK FOR AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND MARKETS (FOOD POLICY, FUNCTIONING OF AGR. MARKETS, IMPLICATIONS OF THE FOOD PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES)."
MINISTERS' OPENING STATEMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY NOT EXCEED SEVEN MINUTES TO BE COMPLETED FIRST DAY AND TO

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ENABLE CHAIRMAN TO SUGGEST TWO OR THREE THEMES FOR SECOND-DAY DISCUSSION. COMMUNIQUE DRAFTED IN ADVANCE WOULD BE FINALIZED BY DRAFTING GROUP EVENING OF FIRST DAY. FEB. 9-10, 1978 SUGGESTED TO COUNCIL AS DATE. SEVERAL DEL'S FELT UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT AGENDA SUB-ITEM, IMPLICATIONS OF THE FOOD PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, POINTING OUT THAT JURISDICTION OVER SUCH POBLEMS LAY OUTSIDE OF AGR. MINISTRIES WITHIN THEIR GOVERNMENTS. SECRETARIAT (SIMANTOV) REPLIED WORLD FOOD COUNCIL MANILA MEETING MOSTLY ATTENDED BY AGR. MINISTERS SHOWED DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THESE PROBLEMS; THEY HAD TO BE FACED AND DISCUSSED BY AGR. MINISTERS. GERMAN DEL INDICATED THAT HIS MINISTER (ERTL) WOULD DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF THE PROTEIN FEED MARKET IN HIS STATEMENT.

- 4. G. VIATTE OF SECRETARIAT JUST RETURNED FROM MANILA WORLD FOOD COUNCIL MEETING CONTRASTED UNPRODUCTIVE 1975 AND 1976 SESSIONS AND PREPARATORY MEETING IN MAY WITH CONSTRUCTIVE MANILA DEMONSTRATION OF WFC AS A USEFUL FORUM.
- 5. EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND AGRICULTURE, AGR(77)16.
  SERETARIAT (JUCKES) ADOPTING US SUGGESTION (WHICH HAD BEEN INFORMALLY TRANSMITTED EARLIER) PROPOSED DIVISION OF SUBJECT INTO (1) USSR AND (2) REST OF COMECON.
  IT WAS AGREED TO CONVENE SMALL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON USSR JULY 27-28 AND TO LET THAT GROUP RECOMMEND WHETHER OR NOT TO CONVENE ANOTHER GROUP ON REST OF COMECON.
  MANY DELS ENDORSED PROJECT; SOME INDICATED PARTICIPATION IN MEETING, OTHERS SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS.
  LOOKING BEYOND THAT EXPERTS' MEETING, THE COMMITTEE HOPED THAT MORE SECRETARIAT RESOURCES SUCH ASCONSUL-UNCLASSIFIED

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TANTS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR ADEQUATE PARTICIPATION OF THE AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE AND THE COMM FOR AGR IN THE OECD-WIDE PROJECT IN E-W RELATIONS.

6. TRENDS IN THE SOYA-BEAN MARKET, AGR(77)21 SUMMARIZED BY SECRETARIAT (LENGELLE). US DEL COMMENDED SECRETARIAT FOR ITS EFFORT IN THE FIELD OF MARKET SURVEILLANCE AND FOR REGISTERING CONCERN AT A MOMENT WHEN CURRENT MARKETING YEAR PRICES HAD CLIMBED TO VERY

HIGH LEVELS. THE RECENT PRICE BREAK WAS EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN THE FIGURES ON US STOCKS JUNE1 JUST RELEASED. ASOF THE TIME THE PAPER WAS WRITTEN, A PRINCIPALFAULT WAS THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE AVAILABILITIES. HE REFERRED TO US FARMERS INTENTIONS TO PLANT LLL PCT OF ACREAGE AND LIKELIHOOD OF STILL HIGHER ACTUAL PLANTINGS. HE ALSO REFERRED TO SIMPSON PAPER FINDINGS PRESENTED AT JOINT WORKING PARTY, MAY 25-27 (I.E. ALTHOUGH SOY-BEANS HAVE FREE MARKET ACCESS IN EC, DEMAND IS AFFECTED BY RESTRICTIVE GRAINS CAP: THUS SOYBEAN DEMAND RELATIVE-LY INELASTIC IN EC AND RELATIVELY HIGH PRICE: DURING PART OF MARKETING YEAR PERFORMED MORE OF A RATIONING FUNCTION IN US THAN IN EC). ON THE OTHER HARD, FREE MARKET ACCESS FOR SOYBEANS WAS ALSO MODIFIEDBY EC PROGRAMS FOR FEEDING SKIM MILK POWDER IN 1976. US DEL FEELS THAT LIVELY DISCUSSION GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE SOYBEAN ECONOMY AND SPECIFICALLYTHE ROLE OFPRICES IN RESOURCE ALLOCATION. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SECRETARIAT'S NOTE WAS TOO DATED (I.E. ALREADY OBSOLETE) TO BE DERESTRICTED.

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- 7. REPORT OF WP NO. 4 (MEAT) AGR(77)17 AND REPORT ON EEC BEEF IMPORT REGIME, AGR(77)24, OF JOINT WP, PRESENTED BY CHAIRMEN (ANHALT AND SHEPHERD, RESPECTIVELY). AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND COMMENTED ON DIFFICULT OUTLOOK AND RESTRICTED MARKET ACCESSFOR BEEF.
- 8. AGR/WP5(774 AND AGR(77)25, MEDIUM-TERM FORECASTS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF APPLES, PEARS, PEACHES AND TOMATOES, 1978 AND 1980 ADOPTED AND TRANSMITTED TO COUNCIL FOR DERESTRICTION. IT WAS OBSERVED THAT MANY COUNTRIES PROJECTED PRODUCTION INCREASES WITHOUT ATTENTION TO MARKET-ABILITY. MOREOVER, GREAT YEAR TO YEAR YIELD VARIATIONS CAUSE PROCLIVITY OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SECTOR TO DISEQUILIBRIUM. EC TOOK EXCEPTION TO TABULATION CF EC6 AND EC9 DATA BUT ACCEPTED REPORT NEVERTHE-UNCLASSIFIED

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LESS.

- 9. PART-TIME FARMING. COUNTRY NOTES AND AUSTRIAN CHAPTER, AGR/WP1(77)1/02 AND 2 AND AGR(77)23 ADOPTED AND TRANSMITTED TO COUNCIL FOR DERESTRICTION. THIS IS SECOND SET O/DOCUMENTS IN THIS SERIES. FINALSET WITH GENERAL REPORT TO BE BEFORE COMM AT NEXT MEETING.
- 10. REPORTS OF PREP. MEETING FOR 7TH WORKING CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS F AGR ADVISORY SERVICES AND OF EXPERTS MEETING ON RE/ATIONS BETWEEN RESEARCH AND ADV. SERVICES AGR(77)12 AND13 AND ON MULTIPURPOSE HYDRAULIC PROJECT AGR(77)15 NOTED.
- 11. OTHER BUSINESS. SOUTH AFRICA APPLIED FOR AD-MISSION TO FUUIT AND VEGETABLE SCHEME. INSPECTON VISIT SCHEDULED FOR OCT. NECESSARY ASSURANCES FROM GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAVING BEEN RECEIVEDADMIS-SION TO SEED SCHEMES BEING RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL. THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN LAUNCHING THE PROJECT ONCO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE COMMITTEE'S KEEN INTEREST IN THE PRO.ECT, ON THE OTHER HAND, LED TO DETAILED DISCUSSION. SECRETARIAT (SIMANTOV) EXPLAINED THAT SECGEN WILL NOT SEEK DEROGATION FROM COUNCIL WHICH WOULD PERMIT GERMANY TO CONTRIBUTE SERVICES IN LIEU OF PAYMENT TO OECD UNLESS ASSURED OF UNANIMOUS APPROVAL. FRANCE AND BELGIUM INDICATED CONTINUED "DIFFICULTY" WITH SUCH A DEROGATION. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED WEEK BEGINNING OCT. 24 WITH AGR. OUTLOOK,

PART-TIME FARMING AND STATUS OF PREPARATIONS OF MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING ON AGENDA. (COMMENT: IT IS UNDERSTOOD, WITHOUT SPECIFIC MENTION, THAT CHAIRMAN UNCLASSIFIED

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R. ESTERUELAS (SPAIN) WILL CHAIR THAT MEETING. ELECTIONS ARE TO BE HELD DURING THE FIRST 1978 MEETING). SALZMAN

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